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This collection of information is required by 97 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or ration a bonefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and aubritting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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APR - 9 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No.

10/063,929

(Cnfrm. No. 7799)

Applicant

Hideki Nishimura, et al.

Filed

May 27, 2002

Tech. Cntr./Art Unit

2652

Examiner

Julie Anne Watko

Docket No.

18.008-AG

Customer No.

29453

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile-transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, fax no. (703) 872-9306 on April 9, 2004.

James W. Judge Reg. No. 42,701

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office action of March 10, 2004 Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species A. (This response is without traverse.)

Further in response to the March 10, 2004 Office action, please amend the aboveidentified patent application as follows.

AMENDMENT Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Amendment to the Claims is reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.